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Cluster virial expansion and generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck formula from a Φ -derivable approach

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based on: arXiv:2512.03876
(with Gordon Baym and Gerd Röpke)

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Cluster virial expansion & generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck

Aspects of the quantum statistical description of many-particle systems with bound and scattering states

low density limit

Ideal Fermi gas:

neutrons, protons
(electrons, neutrinos, ...)

Nuclear statistical equilibrium:

ideal mixture of all bound states
chemical equilibrium, mass action law

Second virial coefficient:

account of continuum correlations ($A = 2$)
scattering phase shifts, Beth-Uhlenbeck Eq.

Cluster virial approach:

all bound states (clusters)
scattering phase shifts of all pairs

high density modification (medium effects)

(1) elementary particles

Quasiparticle quantum liquid:

mean-field approximation
Skyrme, Gogny, RMF

(2) bound state formation

Chemical equilibrium of quasiparticle clusters:

medium modified bound state energies
self-energy and Pauli blocking

(3) continuum contributions

Generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck formula:

medium modified binding energies,
medium modified scattering phase shifts

(4) chemical & physical picture

Correlated medium:

phase space occupation by all bound states
in-medium correlations, quantum condensates

Cluster virial expansion & generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck

Cluster virial expansion of the density

We have in the non-degenerate case $[\sum_P \rightarrow V/(2\pi)^3 \int d^3P]$

$$\begin{aligned}n_{A,Z}(T, \mu_p, \mu_n) &= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\nu, P} f_{A,Z}[E_{A,\nu}(P)] \\&= \sum_c e^{(N\mu_n + Z\mu_p)/T} \int \frac{d^3P}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{\nu_c} g_{A,\nu_c} e^{-E_{A,\nu_c}(P)/T} \\&= \sum_c \int \frac{d^3P}{(2\pi)^3} z_{A,c}(P)\end{aligned}$$

with $g_{A,c} = 2s_{A,c} + 1$ the degeneration factor in the channel c . The partial density of the channel c at \mathbf{P} contains the intrinsic partition function

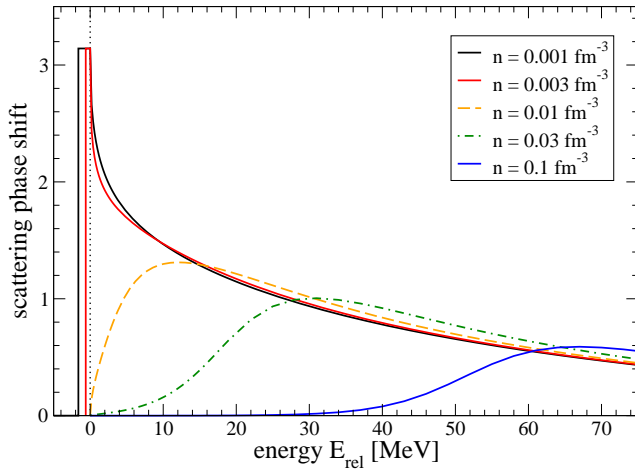
$$z_{A,c}(P; T, \mu_n, \mu_p) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE}{2\pi} e^{(-E - P^2/(2M_A) + N\mu_n + Z\mu_p)/T} 2 \sin^2 \delta_c(E) \frac{d\delta_c(E)}{dE}.$$

Derivation for $A = 2$ (deuterons) within thermodynamic Green's function approach, see M. Schmidt, G. Röpke, H. Schulz, Ann. Phys. (1990)

Cluster virial expansion & generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck

Example: deuteron channel in nuclear matter

$T = 5 \text{ MeV}$



Clustering in a model field theory for quark matter

Partition function for the basic NJL model

$$Z = \int Dq D\bar{q} \exp \left[\int d^4x_E \mathcal{L} \right], \quad \mathcal{L} = \bar{q}(\not{\partial} - m_0 + \mu\gamma_0)q + G_S [(\bar{q}q)^2 + (\bar{q}\gamma_5\vec{\tau}q)^2],$$

After bosonization (Hubbard-Stratonovich trick),

$$Z = \int D\sigma D\vec{\pi} e^{-\int d^4x_E \left\{ \frac{\sigma^2 + \vec{\pi}^2}{4G_S} \right\} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \det(\beta S^{-1})}.$$

Thermodynamic potential in mean field approximation

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{\text{MF}} &= -\frac{T}{V} \ln Z \\ &= \frac{\sigma_{\text{MF}}^2}{4G_S} - 2N_f N_c \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \left[E_p + T \ln \left(1 + e^{-(E_p - \mu)/T} \right) + \text{antiparticle} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

From D. Blaschke et al. arXiv:1305.3907 [hep-ph]

Clustering in a model field theory for quark matter

Fluctuations in Gaussian approximation

$$\Omega_{\text{Gau\ss}} = -\frac{T}{V} \ln Z_{\text{Gau\ss}} = \Omega_{\text{MF}} + \Omega^{(2)} = \Omega_{\text{cond}} + \Omega_{\text{Q}} + \sum_{\text{X}} \Omega_{\text{X}} ,$$

$$\Omega_{\text{X}}(T, \mu) = \frac{d_{\text{X}} T}{2} \frac{1}{V} \ln [\beta^2 S_{\text{X}}^{-1}(z_n, \mathbf{q})] , \quad S_{\text{X}}^{-1}(z_n, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{G_{\text{X}}} - \Pi_{\text{X}}(z_n, \mathbf{q}) .$$

Polar representation \rightarrow Phase shift

$$S_{\text{X}} = |S_{\text{X}}|^{\delta_{\text{X}}} , \quad \delta_{\text{X}}(\omega, \mathbf{q}) = -\ln [\beta^2 S_{\text{X}}^{-1}(\omega - \mu_{\text{X}} + \eta, \mathbf{q})]$$

$$\Omega_{\text{X}}(T, \mu) = -d_{\text{X}} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} [1 + n_{\text{X}}^{-}(\omega) + n_{\text{X}}^{+}(\omega)] \delta_{\text{X}}(\omega, \mathbf{q})$$

Beth-Uhlenbeck formula \rightarrow where is the factor $\sin^2 \delta_{\text{X}}$??

$$p_{\text{X}}(T, \mu) = -d_{\text{X}} T \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \left\{ \ln \left(1 - e^{-(\omega - \mu_{\text{X}})/T} \right) + \text{antip.} \right\} \frac{d\delta_{\text{X}}(\omega, \mathbf{q})}{d\omega}$$

Φ -derivable approach (conserving approximation scheme)

For QED, make ansatz [Vanderheyden & Baym, J. Stat. Phys. (1998)]

$$\beta\Omega = \Phi[G, D] - \text{Tr}\Sigma G + \text{Tr}\ln(-\gamma_0 G) + \frac{1}{2}\text{Tr}\Pi D - \frac{1}{2}\text{Tr}\ln(-D)$$

Stationarity of the thermodynamic potential,

$$\frac{\delta\Omega}{\delta G} = \frac{\delta\Omega}{\delta D} = 0,$$

is equivalent to fulfillment of Dyson equations for propagators of electrons G and photons D ,

$$G^{-1} = G_0^{-1} - \Sigma, \quad D^{-1} = D_0^{-1} - \Pi,$$

where G_0 and D_0 are the bare electron and photon propagators, and Σ and Π are calculated as functional derivatives,

$$\Sigma = \frac{\delta\Phi}{\delta G}, \quad \Pi = 2\frac{\delta\Phi}{\delta D}.$$

From Blaschke, Röpke, Baym, arXiv:2512.03876 [nucl-th]

Φ -derivable approach (conserving approximation scheme)

Using spectral representations, the frequency sums can be evaluated

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= T\Phi[G, D] + \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} f(\omega) \text{Tr}_{\text{Dirac}} \text{Im} \left[\Sigma G + \ln \left(-\gamma_0 G^{-1} \right) \right] \\ &+ \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} n(\omega) \sum_{l=L, T} g_l \text{Im} \left[\Pi_l D_l + \ln \left(-D_l^{-1} \right) \right],\end{aligned}$$

Let us consider the entropy as the derivative with respect to the temperature,

$$S = - \left. \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial T} \right|_{\mu, V, A, B} = S_f + S_b + S',$$

$$S_b \equiv - \sum_{\mathbf{q}, l} g_l \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{\partial n(\omega)}{\partial T} \left[\text{Im} \Pi_l \text{Re} D_l + \text{Im} \ln \left(-D_l^{-1} \right) \right],$$

The remaining term vanishes in the two-loop approximation for Φ

$$S' \equiv - \left. \frac{\partial(T\Phi)}{\partial T} \right|_B - \sum_{\mathbf{q}, l} g_l \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{\partial n(\omega)}{\partial T} \text{Im} D_l \text{Re} \Pi_l = 0$$

Generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck formula from Φ -derivable ...

With the polar representation of the propagator $D = |D| \exp(i\delta)$ follow the relations

$$D \operatorname{Im}\Pi = \sin \delta e^{i\delta}, \quad D^{*'} \operatorname{Im}\Pi = -i\delta' \sin \delta e^{-i\delta},$$

which allow to rewrite

$$- [\operatorname{Re}D \operatorname{Im}\Pi + \operatorname{Im} \ln(-D^{-1})]' = 2\delta' \sin^2 \delta$$

and obtain the entropy in the form of a generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck formula,

$$S_b = 2V \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\pi} \sigma_b(\omega) \sin^2 \delta(\omega, \mathbf{q}) \frac{\partial \delta(\omega, \mathbf{q})}{\partial \omega}.$$

Lorentz-profile \rightarrow "squared Lorentzian"

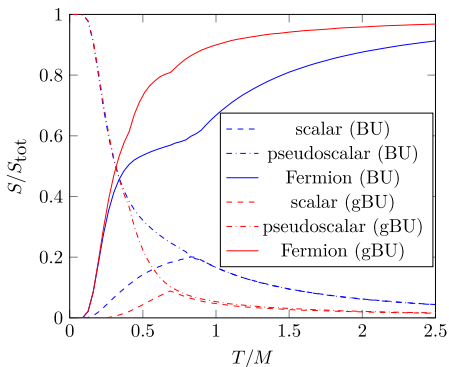
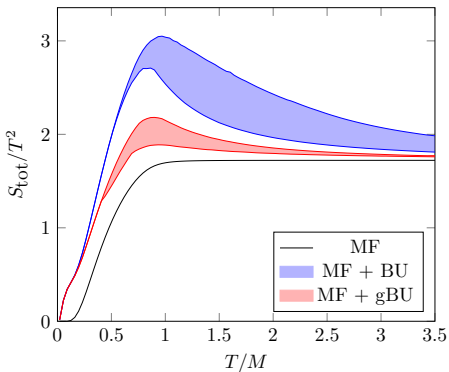
$$\frac{\partial \delta(\omega)}{\partial \omega} = -\frac{\Gamma}{(\omega - \omega_R)^2 + \Gamma^2} \rightarrow \sin^2 \delta(\omega) \frac{\partial \delta(\omega)}{\partial \omega} = \frac{\Gamma^3}{[(\omega - \omega_R)^2 + \Gamma^2]^2}.$$

From Blaschke, Röpke, Baym, arXiv:2512.03876 [nucl-th]

Application: quark-meson plasma with backreaction

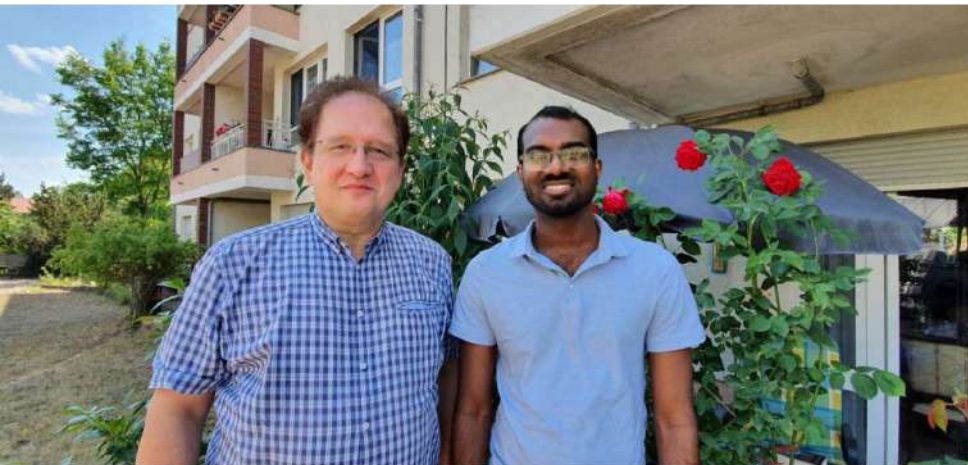
Generalized Beth-Uhlenbeck formula for 2+1D GN model, with correction $\sin(2\delta)/2$

$$S_{fl,gBU} = \sum_{i=\pi,\sigma} \int \frac{d^2q}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{dg(\omega)}{dT} \{ \delta_i(\omega, q) - \sin[2\delta_i(\omega, q)]/2 \}$$



Figures from B. Mahato & D. Blaschke, arXiv:2604.02246

Application: quark-meson plasma with backreaction



Further applications are found in the PhD Thesis of Biplab Mahato (Uni Wroclaw)



University of Wroclaw, Oratorium Marianum, CPOD 2016

